

TO GO

WHAT'S POPPIN'
IN POP CULTURE



NERD ALERT!

STORYTELLERS

For the past decade, the opening hour of Thursday's primetime has been dominated by infighting and double-dealers. And that's just on CBS' *Survivor*.

Now in its 21st season, the reality megahit is ready to conquer the wilds of Wednesday. And so as of Sept. 23, when *The Big Bang Theory* relocates to Thursday from its longtime Monday home, the night's 8 p.m. hour is about to become smarter, funnier and a whole lot nerdier.

If only the *Big Bang* boys could know their new time-slot neighbor is none other than their idol, William Shatner. This fall, the 79-year-old TV veteran begins his first regular role in a live-audience sitcom as the titular patriarch in *\$#! My Dad Says*.

A comedy combo of Caltech calculator jockeys and the onetime Capt. Kirk? Set your nerd detectors to high alert and brace yourselves: With a collective IQ that's higher than the national debt, these four physicists just might figure out how to travel the television waves and find a certain cantankerous patriarch's San Diego den. If the Shatner-loving Sheldon were to meet *\$#!*'s star in the same Cartesian space, the ensuing excitement would warp the space-time continuum ... or at least your eardrums. //

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how comedy
has returned
to Thursday
nights.

SONJA FLEMING/CBS